

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

This is in response to the Office Action dated August 19, 2009, and further to the Advisory Action dated December 15, 2009. Claims 25 and 27-32 are pending and stand rejected. Claims 25, 28-29 and 31 have been amended.

Applicant thanks the Examiner for the courtesy of providing Applicant's representative a telephone interview on January 11, 2010.

The rejection of independent claims 25, 28 and 31, as allegedly being anticipated under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) by Feld et al. (US 2001/0026272) is respectfully traversed. Feld fails to disclose or even remotely suggest each and every limitation set forth in the claims. Anticipation requires that "each and every element as set forth in the claim is found, either expressly or inherently described, in a single prior art reference", *Verdegaal Bro. v. Union Oil Co. of California*, 814 F.2d 628, 631 (Fed. Cir. 1987) (MPEP § 2131).

Amended claims 25, 28 and 31 now recite "...receiving a set of values, a, representing a received first object model, ...such that $w = V^{\pm} a$, wherein V^{\pm} is the pseudo-inverse of V , V representing the vertex coordinates of the plurality of predefined object models... wherein said applying includes calculating $c_{\text{NEW}} = c w$, wherein c represents the vertex coordinates of the respective meshes of the predefined models of the second type". Support for the amendment can be found in p. 19, line 5 to p. 20, line 4, and p. 20, line 32 to p. 21, line 13 and Figs. 7 and 8 of the instant specification. Feld does not teach or suggest these features.

With the above amendment to claims 25, 28 and 31, the set of weights w expressing the received first object model of a first type in terms of the plurality of predefined object models, each of the first type, is specifically defined, thus directly responding to the Examiner's assertion

that “applicants fail to define what the limitation ‘a set of weights’ refers in the specification”, see p. 4 of the Office Action of August, 19, 2009.

In the invention of claims 25, 28 and 31, the weight generation module 30 receives the avatar object model for which it is to calculate a set of weights relating thereto (Fig. 3). The weights, w , are calculated by multiplying the matrix, a , of the received avatar object model with the pseudo-inverse matrix of the matrix V representing the vertex coordinates of the plurality of predefined object models (Fig. 7). Moreover, after the set of weights w has been calculated, these values are multiplied with the values, c , representing the vertex coordinates of the respective meshes of the predefined models of the second type corresponding to clothing garments in the shape which the garments would assume when applied to the predefined object models (Fig. 8).

In contrast, there is no disclosure in Feld of the use of a set of weights either in relation of defining an object model which represents an avatar or in defining an object model which represents a clothing model. Instead, Fig. 6 in Feld shows the process by which a wear article can be fitted to a model, which requires that the vertice positions be calculated, a collision detection routine be executed, and a comparison of the new vertice positions be made with the material properties associated with the wear article (steps 98, 100 and 102). In other words, as it is stated in the present application, discussing Feld, “The shape of the wear article is then conformed to the shape of the object using data relating to a material type of the article, which specifies how the wear article may stretch, flex, sag etc. on the virtual model object to better approximate the real-life look and fit of the article”, see p. 2, lines 9-12 of the specification.

For the above reasons, claims 25, 28 and 31 are allowable.

It is respectfully requested that the rejection of claims 27, 29-30 and 32, each being dependent from claim 25, or 31, also be withdrawn.

In view of the foregoing and other considerations, all claims are deemed in condition for allowance. A formal indication of allowability is earnestly solicited.

The Commissioner is authorized to charge the undersigned's deposit account #14-1140 in whatever amount is necessary for entry of these papers and the continued pendency of the captioned application.

Should the Examiner feel that an interview with the undersigned would facilitate allowance of this application, the Examiner is encouraged to contact the undersigned.

Respectfully submitted,

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